

**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS****What is claimed is:**

1. (currently amended) A melt extrusion spinneret plate having at least one capillary orifice for producing at least a single filament of circular cross sectional shape, said orifice having a perimeter of non-circular cross sectional shape,  
a perimeter measure  $p_c$ , and  
an extrusion area, wherein,  
said perimeter measure,  $p_c$ , is greater than either of:  $2\pi R$  and  $2\pi r$ ,  
and further wherein, said extrusion area is greater than  $\pi r^2$  and less than  $\pi R^2$ ,  
and further wherein,  $r$  is the radius of the largest circle inscribed by the orifice perimeter,  
and  $R$  is the radius of the largest circle circumscribing the orifice perimeter; and wherein the orifice has a cross-sectional area substantially the same as that area of a circular cross-section spinneret capillary having a radius  $R$ .
2. (currently amended) The melt extrusion spinneret plate according to Claim 1, wherein said perimeter measure,  $p_c$ , is ~~about~~ 2 to ~~about~~ 10 times greater than either of  $2\pi R$  and  $2\pi r$ .
3. (currently amended) The melt extrusion spinneret plate according to Claim 1, wherein the orifice has ~~about~~ 5 to ~~about~~ 12 radially arranged legs.
- 4-12 (canceled)